

David Kahan, a national leader from Michigan's 11th District who passed away on January 8th, 2022. Among the many contributions Mr. Kahan made to our community, he will be remembered to many as the beloved patriarch of the Kahan family, a savvy business owner, and an advocate for the Jewish community.

Mr. David Kahan has been described by his family as "one-of-a-kind," and his inspirational personal story of perseverance demonstrates how unique he was: At just sixteen years old, David Kahan and his family were captured from their home in a remote town in Transylvania and imprisoned at the Auschwitz concentration camp in Nazi-occupied Poland. Despite experiencing severe malnutrition, Typhus, and unimaginable abuse, David Kahan survived the horrific conditions of Auschwitz and moved to the United States to start anew.

Like many Holocaust survivors, Mr. Kahan initially found his time at Auschwitz too disturbing to share. His children recall the moment in the 1970's when a professor from Northwestern University in Chicago incorrectly challenged the scale and cruelty of the Holocaust, motivating their father to speak out about his experience as a survivor. For the remainder of his life, Mr. Kahan worked to ensure that this important history was not forgotten and that the Jewish community was represented. He spoke at various high schools, civic centers, and events to advocate for Holocaust education and the Jewish community for almost 50 years.

Mr. Kahan was proud of his country and made it his mission to ensure that the United States could continue to serve as a "land of

opportunity" for those like him. He worked selling shoes and then in a tool and die shop before establishing himself in real estate in 1967. Over the course of his career, Mr. Kahan advanced to work alongside several of Southeast Michigan's most prominent business leaders. He said that his personal success is a true example of how the U.S. presents opportunities unlike any other place in the world, and he dedicated his life to expanding these opportunities for others.

Mr. David Kahan will be fondly remembered and genuinely missed by all who knew him and were touched by his remarkable life. His legacy continues through his wife, Terry, and their children, Douglas, Jeffrey, and Michael Kahan. Madam Speaker, the scope of Mr. David Kahan's impact is immeasurable, and Michigan's 11th Congressional District is fortunate to have been home to such an inspirational leader. Please join me in remembering the life of Mr. David Kahan and his many contributions.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH
BIRTHDAY OF EUGENE MCAVOY
CHAMPION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 4, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th birthday of Mr. Eugene McAvoy Champion.

Eugene was born on February 20, 1932, in Crenshaw County, Alabama. He was the youngest son born to Leon and Carol Newton Champion. He graduated from Crenshaw County High School and joined the United States Air Force. Eugene served during the Korean Conflict at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Eugene married his high school sweetheart, Bobbie Royal, on June 15, 1952, and was blessed with five children. He graduated from the University of Alabama and worked in public accounting. He later worked in the Medicaid Division for the State of Alabama. After retiring from the state, he opened a CPA firm in Prattville and worked there until just a few years ago.

After Bobbie passed away in 1976, Eugene and his children moved to Prattville, Alabama. He became an active member of First Baptist Church and married Margaret Wells Scott in 1979. Their marriage added three more children to the family.

He is an active member and past president of the Lion's Club. He has also been an active member of the Gideons.

Eugene is a loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

His birthday will be celebrated in Prattville with his family on Sunday, February 20th.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing Eugene a very happy birthday.